

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 10274 311517Z

46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 054322

O R 311345Z OCT 74 ZFF 4

FM FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7395

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 10274

EXDIS

SECTO 272

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S CONVERSATIONS WITH BANGLADESH
LEADERS

1. SUMMARY. SECRETARY MET WITH BD FOREIGN MINISTER HOSSAIN AND PRIME MINISTER MUJIB FOR TOTAL OF 3-1/2 HOURS TALKS AFTERNOON OCTOBER 30. SECRETARY STRESSED OUR SATISFACTION IN GOOD RELATIONS AND PLEDGED CONTINUED US SUPPORT FOR BD DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. REAFFIRMED HIGH US REGARD FOR SIMLA PROCESS AND COMMENDED MUJIB FOR "GENE-ROSITY OF SPIRIT" IN THIS AREA. MUJIB SAID HE HAD NO ENMITY TOWARD PAKISTAN AND WANTED GOOD RELATIONSHIP. TALKS INCLUDED EXTENSIVE REVIEW OF SPECIFIC PROBLEMS IN AID FIELD AND SPECIAL FOCUS ON STEPS POSSIBLE TO IMPROVE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOKS. END SUMMARY.

2. SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH MUJIB WAS EXTREMELY CORDIAL REVIEW OF OUR RELATIONS AND PROBLEMS FACING BANGLADESH. SECRETARY RECALLED WITH STRONG SATISFACTION HIS AND PRESIDENT'S CONVERSATIONS WITH MUJIB IN NEW YOUR AND WASHINGTON AND AFFIRMED OUR APPRECIATION OF WARMTH IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 10274 311517Z

US-BD RELATIONSHIP. ASSURED BOTH MUJIB AND HOSSAIN OF

SYMPATHY AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR MANY AGONIES THAT BANGLADESH HAD SUFFERED IN RECENT HISTORY AND SAID US PREPARED TO CONTINUE DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE, WITHIN ITS CAPABILITIES, TO ASSIST BDG BUILD STRONG AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETY.

3. SECRETARY EXPRESSED SPECIAL APPRECIATION FOR VERY WARM RECEPTION HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES HAD RECEIVED IN BANGLADESH; MUJIB RESPONDED BY DESCRIBING THIS AS REFLECTIVE OF "LOVE AND AFFECTION" OF BENGALIS FOR US. SECRETARY NOTED THAT HE HAD PROFITED FROM DETAILED REVIEW OF ELEMENTS IN OUR RELATIONSHIP IN EARLIER TALKS WITH KAMAL HOSSAIN AND SAID HE WOULD WELCOME OVERVIEW OF BANGLADESH PROBLEMS AS MUJIB SAW THEM.

4. MUJIB'S COMMENTS ON PAKISTAN WERE MORE IN SORROW THAN IN ANGER, FOCUSING ON BIHARI AND ASSET ISSUES AND EXPRESSING HIS REGRET THAT GOP LEADERSHIP SEEMED SO UNWILLING, AS HE SAW IT, TO TAKE STEPS BEYOND RECOGNITION TO ESTABLISH BETTER TIES. MUJIB SAID HE HAD NO ANGER OR HATRED IN HIS HEART AND SAID HE AND HIS PEOPLE WANTED A SETTLEMENT WITH PAKISTAN.

5. HIGHLIGHTING SEVERE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS CURRENTLY FACING BANGLADESH BY DESCRIBING THE 5,303 GRUEL KITCHENS HIS GOVERNMENT HAD OPENED, MUJIB SAID BANGLADESH COULD HAVE STRONG ECONOMY WITHIN FIVE YEARS IF IT COULD EFFECTIVELY MOBILIZE ITS OWN RESERVES AND IF "MASSIVE" HELP COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FROM DEVELOPED WORLD. INCLUDED IN THIS MUST BE LARGE FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR AT LEAST ONE TO TWO YEARS. MUJIB SAID THAT OF COURSE ANY SUCH PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC TERMS WOULD ALSO REQUIRE ENERGETIC POPULATION PLANNING EFFORT.

6. MUJIB EXPRESSED STRONG SENSE OF GRATITUDE FOR PL 480 ASSISTANCE, NOTING ESPECIALLY FACT OF ADDITIONAL 100,000 TONS OF FOOD OF WHICH PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY HAD SPOKEN WHEN HE WAS IN US.

7. SECRETARY ASSURED MUJIB THAT BANGLADESH WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE HIGH PRIORITY AS US PROCEEDED TO ALLOCATE WHAT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 10274 311517Z

REGRETTABLY WAS NOW LIMITED AMOUNT FOOD AVAILABLE TO US COMPARED TO EARLIER YEARS. ASSURED MUJIB THAT WE WOULD DO MORE IN SECOND HALF FY 75 BUT WE COULD NOT BE SPECIFIC NOW.

8. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH BOTH MUJIB AND FOREIGN MINISTER, SECRETARY SAID WE WOULD BE PREPARED CONSIDER CAREFULLY WITH BDG AND OTHERS WHAT MIGHT BE DONE IN FLOOD CONTROL, MORE

EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION OF WATER RESOURCES, AND OTHER PROJECTS TO SPUR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY. SECRETARY EXPRESSED VIEW THAT FLOOD CONTROL EFFORTS IN PARTICULAR COULD WELL BE FOCUS OF MULTILATERAL EFFORTS IN CONSORTIUM CONTEXT AND IN BDG-INDIAN COOPERATION. HOSSAIN AGREED AND SAID HE HOPED US COULD PROVIDE LEADERSHIP IN THIS RESPECT.

9. SECRETARY EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF OTHER INPUTS SUCH AS FERTILIZER AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SAID HE WOULD BE SPELLING OUT A BROAD APPROACH IN THIS AREA IN SPEECH TO WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. ALSO STRESSED ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF GREATER SELF-HELP EFFORTS ON PART OF BANGLADESH.

10. IN RESPONDING TO COMMENTS BY BOTH MUJIB AND FOREIGN MINISTER ON OUTLOOK FOR RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN, SECRETARY REAFFIRMED STRONG AND SYMPATHETIC USG SUPPORT FOR SIMLA PROCESS AND COMMENDED MUJIB FOR GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT IN HIS APPROACH TO PROBLEMS WITH PAKISTAN. ASSURED BOTH MUJIB AND FOREIGN MINISTER THAT US SUPPORT FOR SIMLA WOULD REMAIN UNDIMINISHED AND THAT HE WOULD TAKE OPPORTUNITY OF ISLAMABAD VISIT TO EMPHASIZE THAT SUPPORT AND WOULD CONVEY VIEWS THAT MUJIB AND FOREIGN MINISTER HAD EXPRESSED TO HIM ON BIHARI AND ASSETS PROBLEMS.

11. EARLIER AND SEPARATE MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER INCLUDED DETAILED EXPOSITION OF EVOLVING BDG FOREIGN POLICY, INCLUDING WHAT HE TERMED CONSCIOUS AND DEDICATED PURSUIT OF NONALIGNMENT APPROACH. SECRETARY INDICATED US SUPPORT FOR THIS CONCEPT AS ONLY APPROPRIATE ONE FOR A COUNTRY IN POSITION OF BANGLADESH. SECRETARY REMINDED FOREIGN MINISTER, HOWEVER, OF HIS CONCERN OVER EVOLVING PATTERN OF ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOR ON PART OF MANY NONALIGNED THAT AMOUNTED TO A NEW AND MORE RIGID

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 ISLAMA 10274 311517Z

ALIGNMENT DIRECTED AGAINST THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. OBSERVED THAT IN LONG RUN, THIS COULD ONLY WORK TO SERIOUS DISADVANTAGE OF ALL COUNTRIES AND PARTICULARLY LDC'S. SAID HE HAD NO RESERVATION ABOUT BDG ROLE IN THIS RESPECT BUT HOPED THAT BDG WOULD KEEP THIS IN MIND AND USE ITS INFLUENCE AS APPROPRIATE TO COUNTER THIS TREND.

12. FOREIGN MINISTER RAISED VARIETY OF PROBLEMS REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION CURRENT US FOOD AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS IN BANGLADESH, AND SECRETARY ASSURED FM THAT THESE WOULD GET EARLY AND EFFECTIVE CONSIDERATION BY USG TO DETERMINE WHETHER WE COULD WORK THESE OUT. THESE INCLUDED REITERATION OF REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PL 480 FOODGRAINS, REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF EARLIER NEGATIVE DECISION ON 14,000 TONS EDIBLE OIL FROM FY 74 ALLOCATIONS, REQUEST FOR REPLACE-

MENT OF \$4 MILLION OF REPROGRAMMED REHAB FUNDS TO FLOOD RELIEF AND CONCERN OVER CUTOFF DATE (HOSSAIN ALLEGED DECEMBER 31) AFFECTING UNDISBURSED REHABILITATION FUNDS. SECRETARY PROMISED TO TAKE VIGOROUS ACTION TO PREVENT ANY LOSS OF FUNDS DUE TO CUT-OFF. HOSSAIN STRESSED NEED FOR GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN DL PROGRAM TO PERMIT COMMODITY ASSISTANCE TO ASSIST BANGLADESH INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE, PARTICULARLY FERTILIZER, COTTON, TALLOW AND CEMENT. HOSSAIN SAID THAT UNEXPECTED FERTILIZER SHORTAGE DUE TO EXPLOSION AT BD FERTILIZER FACTORY HAD CREATED NEED FOR ADDITIONAL DL UP TO ANOTHER \$50 MILLION FOR FY 75. SECRETARY GAVE NO ASSURANCE ON LATTER POINT, NOTING GENERALLY UNSYMPATHETIC CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES ON AID MATTERS.

13. HOSSAIN ALSO REVIEWED STEPS THAT HE SAID BDG HAD RECENTLY TAKEN TO FOSTER GENERAL INVESTMENT CLIMATE, INCLUDING RECENTLY ANNOUNCED NEW INVESTMENT POLICY AND READINESS TO SIGN OPIC AGREEMENT WITH US, AND SAID CLEARANCES NOW BEING UNDERTAKEN WITHIN BDG ON PAYMENTS TO US INSURANCE COMPANIES WHOSE HOLDINGS HAD BEEN NATIONALIZED.
KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECTO 272
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ISLAMA10274
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740311-0601
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974104/aaaaacok.tel
Line Count: 192
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S CONVERSATIONS WITH BANGLADESH LEADERS
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005